

NOTES

REPORT ON THE XIV INTERNATIONAL BOTANICAL CONGRESS.—The XIV International Botanical Congress was held in West Berlin during the period 20 July through 1 August 1987. There were 14 pre-Congress and 17 post-Congress botanical excursions, extending to the far reaches of Western Europe. Before the Congress, for example, Cherie Wetzel and Larry Heckard joined a small group led by Prof. Arne Strid of the University of Copenhagen in a botanical tour of northern Greece, especially Mount Olympus, while Elizabeth McClintock explored the Canary Islands and William Sanders, a graduate student at Berkeley, collected lichens in Sardinia.

After the Congress, Larry Heckard and I, along with Tom and Mary Fuller and their son Ken, participated in a memorable tour of Czechoslovakia under the guidance of numerous Czech and Slovak botanists, especially Dr. Jan Jeník and Dr. Viera Feráková. Unlike the excursions sponsored by the XII International Botanical Congress in the Soviet Union in 1975, over which the government tourist bureau had rigid control, our program was mainly in the hands of botanists. The politics of the excursion were obvious and amusing. Czechoslovakia comprises two ethnic and political entities, the Czech Socialist Republic with its capital at Prague and the Slovak Socialist Republic with its capital at Bratislava. Everything was counterbalanced. We visited high mountains, lowlands, and limestone outcrops in Bohemia, and high mountains, lowlands, and limestone outcrops in Slovakia. Czechoslovakia has a long and strong botanical tradition; its flora and vegetation have been studied so intensively that only minutiae remain. At times we were exposed to more details than we could absorb, but it was a small price to pay for the privilege of seeing the spectacular plants and scenery of Czechoslovakia and sharing the knowledge and warmth of her wonderfully hospitable people.

The Congress itself was held in the monumental International Congress Centre, conveniently served by Berlin's efficient subway and bus systems. The main building staggers the imagination. It is 300 m long, 80 m wide, and 40 m high. Inside this enormous shell are facilities sufficient to meet the ordinary and special needs of a far larger assemblage than the 4130 botanists and companions of this Congress. Foremost is the main theater, its grand proportions recalling the Radio City Music Hall in New York City. Here is where the opening and closing ceremonies were held. The opening ceremony will be remembered by many of us for the truly outstanding performance by the Westphalian Symphony Orchestra conducted by Walter Gillessen. After an opening fanfare, the ceremony began with vigor and excitement by the playing of Brahms's *Academic Festival Overture*. Brief addresses were given by the President of the Congress (Karl Esser), the Senator for Science and Research for West Berlin (George Turner), the Vice-President of the International Union of Biological Sciences (David Ride), the President of the German Botanical Society (Wilhelm Nultsch), and the Honorary President of the Congress (Frans Stafleu). The ceremony closed with a magnificent concert of German music, running the gamut from Wagner's *Prelude to Die Meistersinger* to Johann Strauss's *Overture to Die Fledermaus*, and including major works by Beethoven, Schumann, and Richard Strauss. Immediately after the opening ceremony, there was a reception, where many members of the California Botanical Society crossed paths and welcomed one another. Besides those already mentioned, I happened to meet Herbert and Irene Baker, Doug Barbie, Tania Beliz, Winslow Briggs, Heidi Dobson, Kent Holsinger, Donald Kaplan, David Keil, Stephanie Mayer, Jeanine Olsen, Ledyard Stebbins, John Thomas, Nancy Vivrette, and Grady Webster.

In addition to the main theater, there are two small theaters with banks of seats that can be retracted to the ceiling, leaving a vast open space. Here is where the

Congress banquet was held, with more than a thousand persons served nearly simultaneously. The smaller meeting rooms varied greatly in their desirability. Topping the list was the roof garden, where the Nomenclature Section met during the week preceding the regular Congress. From the roof of the Congress Centre a panoramic vista of West Berlin and the edge of East Berlin could be obtained, although there was often interference from ominous clouds that brought some rain nearly every day. At the bottom of the list were small meeting spaces cut off from main passageways only by portable partitions. The consensus seemed to be that while nearly everyone was initially turned off by the sheer size and impersonal nature of the Congress Centre, within a few days the dissidents had been converted and looked forward each morning to rejoining their spaceship, which offered comfortable, spacious, and immaculate facilities to accommodate all conceivable daily needs. Next to spaciousness, the most obvious hallmark of the center is the extremely high caliber of materials and workmanship. There are miles of chrome and acres of black synthetic leather. The seats in the main theater are undoubtedly the most comfortable and most expensive I have ever experienced, offering special lumbar support and a reading light.

As for the scientific program, the Congress was very well organized, but there were too many events, even more so than is usually the case. There were 24 general lectures, 224 symposia, 123 poster sessions, 36 special interest meetings, and 25 society meetings. One of my days began with a poster session at 8:30 in the morning and ended at the close of a symposium at 10 in the evening! In my field (phycology), the symposia were generally disappointing, some of the presentations being rehashes of papers given two years earlier at an international phycological congress in Copenhagen. I thought that the contributed papers were more interesting, with some of the best work being presented as posters. Unfortunately, the poster area was extremely crowded. Poster presentations were formalized, being grouped into sessions, each chaired by a moderator. One of the best posters, incidentally, was by Bob Haller of the University of California at Santa Barbara, on the distribution, evolution, and systematics of western American yellow pines.

Despite the fact that most papers dealt with aspects of botany other than those that would be of greatest interest to members of the California Botanical Society, the leadership of the Congress was largely in the hands of taxonomists, reflecting the great strength and importance of the Berlin Botanical Museum and Garden. Its director, Werner Greuter, was chairman of the organizing committee. We were often reminded of the remarkable contributions of a long succession of eminent botanists in Berlin, especially Adolf Engler. During the nomenclature sessions, a magnificent new wing to the botanical museum and library was dedicated. At the closing ceremony, the International Association of Plant Taxonomists awarded the first Engler gold medal to Frans Stafleu in recognition of his enormous contributions to taxonomic botany. The next award of the Engler medal will be made at the XVth Congress in Tokyo in 1993.

What was accomplished at the Congress? As usual the greatest benefit came from personal contacts rather than from formal presentations. The motto of the Congress was "Forests of the World" and attention was focused on the serious plight of our rain forests as well as the equally serious plight of European woodlands. In some parts of Europe a quarter of the trees are dead or dying as a result of atmospheric pollution.

With regard to nomenclature, we were faced with a record number of proposals—334—almost all of which were defeated, either by a preliminary mail vote or by a vote on the floor. Stafleu skillfully but autocratically kept the sessions moving, often so rapidly that confusion ensued. Towards the end of the sessions, fatigue set in, and numerous proposals were referred either to the Editorial Committee or to a series of *ad hoc* committees charged with making their reports prior to the Tokyo Congress.

In December 1987, the Editorial Committee received a compilation of the proposals accepted by the Congress or referred to them for discretionary action, and we met in Berlin during the first week of January to write the new Code. Most changes are of

the nature of clarification or elimination of conflicting rules. The only fundamental change concerns lectotypification. Implicit lectotypification, that is, lectotypification expressed by a taxonomic treatment rather than by an explicit statement, has been outlawed, both in the past and in the future. Thousands of lectotypifications may be affected, especially at the level of species and infraspecific taxa, but the full effect of the new ruling will not be known for many years. I should mention that the official Berlin Code will be in English only, resulting in a prompter, smaller, and less expensive publication compared to previous versions.

Finally, I want to say that all the congressists enjoyed Berlin and Berliners. It is an open-minded, cosmopolitan city, making up for its lack of beauty by its tremendous energy and excitement.—PAUL C. SILVA, Herbarium, Department of Botany, University of California, Berkeley 94720. (Received 9 Nov 1987; revision accepted 22 Feb 1988.)

TYPIFICATION OF *Chaenactis alpina* (ASTERACEAE).—Asa Gray cited no specimens when he described *Chaenactis douglasii* var. *alpina* (Synoptical Fl. N. Amer. 1²:341, 1884). The range was given as “Alpine region of the Rocky and Cascade Mountains in Colorado and Wyoming, of the Sierra Nevada, California, and north to Washington Terr.” Stockwell (Contr. Dudley Herb. 3:113, 1940) designated a type, “Alta, Wasatch Mountains, Utah, *M. E. Jones 1232*. (NY)” and stated “Type of A. Gray not known.” There is no indication on the sheet that Gray ever saw this specimen. In GH there are at least five collections prior to 1884 with the name “var. *alpina*” and “Syn. Fl.” on the sheets, including two collections each from California (*Hooker and Gray s.n.* in 1877, *Brewer 1901*) and Colorado (*Parry 55*, *Hall and Harbour 283*) and one collection possibly from Wyoming (not labeled but next to label for *C. douglasii* specimen from Wyoming). These account for Gray’s distribution except for Washington Territory. One sheet contains a fragment collected by Geyer apparently at Spokane Falls but belongs to another species. It can be safely concluded that this material represents some or all of that which Gray used to describe var. *alpina*, and the lectotype must therefore be chosen from among these specimens [Art. T.4.(a), ICBN].

There are two elements represented in the specimens I take to be type material, a glandular or viscid-hirsute element and a tomentose or lanate element. Only the Hall and Harbour specimen fits Gray’s description completely because it is the only specimen with complete rootstocks. It is not, however, the typical variety of Stockwell and others (Harrington, Manual Pl. Colorado 588, 1964; Welsh et al., A Utah Fl. 163, 1987). Another specimen (*Parry 55*), which fits Gray’s protologue except for lacking complete rootstocks, is therefore chosen as the lectotype in order to preserve current usage [Art. T.4.(e), ICBN].

Stockwell’s varieties *rubella* and *leucopsis* appear to be the same taxon. Var. *leucopsis* is taken up here to be consistent with Harrington (Manual Pl. Colorado 588, 1964) and Welsh (Great Basin Naturalist 43:235, 1983). The nomenclature is summarized below.

- CHAENACTIS ALPINA (Gray) Jones, Proc. Calif. Acad. Sci. II, 5:699. 1895.—*Chaenactis Douglasii* Hook. & Arn. var. *alpina* Gray, Synoptical Fl. N. Amer. 1²:341. 1884.—Lectotype: CO, headwaters of Clear Creek and alpine ridges e. of Middle Park, 1861, *Parry 55* (GH!).
- Chaenactis pedicularia* Greene, Pittonia 4:98. 1899. Holotype: CO, La Plata Mts., Little Kate Mine, 11,500 ft, *Baker, Earle, and Tracy 536*, 16 Jul 1898 (ND-G; isotype: RM!, US).
- Chaenactis pumila* Greene, Leaf. Bot. Observ. Crit. 2:221. 1912. Holotype: CA, peak near Sonora Pass, 11,500 ft, *Brewer 1901* (US; isotype: GH!).
- CHAENACTIS ALPINA (Gray) Jones var. LEUCOPSIS (Greene) Cock. ex. Stockw., Contr. Dudley Herb. 3:114. 1940.—*Chaenactis leucopsis* Greene, Leaf. Bot. Observ.